

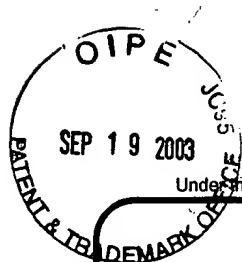
SEP 22 2003

PTO/SB/30 (05-03)

Approved for use through 4/30/2003 OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.



REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/736,937
Filing Date	December 14, 2000
First Named Inventor	Blatter et al
Art Unit	3731 #18
Examiner Name	Paul A. Roberts
Attorney Docket Number	11502/15 5-24

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Other

RECEIVED

SEP 24 2003

b. ☒ Enclosed

- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R8700

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other

3. Fees

- The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-2375
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 09/23/2003 MBIZUNES 00000098 09736937
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 750.00 OP
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. ☒ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print / Type)	KEVIN B. LAURENCE	Registration No. (Attorney / Agent)	38,219
Signature	Kevin B. Laurence	Date	SEP. 19, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print / Type)	Kevin B. Laurence	Date	
Signature		Date	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing the burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)Applicant(s): **Blatter et al.**

Docket No.

11502/15

Serial No.

09/736,937

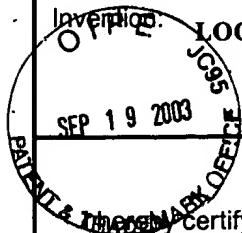
Filing Date

December 14, 2000

Examiner

Paul A. Roberts

Group Art Unit

3731Invention: **LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE APPARATUS**

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

**Request for Continued Examination Transmittal (RCE)
Amendment and Response (including the items listed below)***(Identify type of correspondence)*

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

SEP. 19 2003
(Date)**Kevin B. Laurence***(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)*
(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)**EU976903623US***("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)***RECEIVED****SEP 24 2003**

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R376

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.

Transmitted:

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (1 pg.)
Amendment and Response (17 pgs.)
Amendment and Response Transmittal Letter including Request for
One-Month Extension of Time (2 pgs.)
PTO-Charge Form 2038 charging the amount of \$860.00
Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail Label No. EU976903623US
Postcard